ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A lever handle return spring assembly for a cylindrical lock mounted in a bored opening in a door includes support plates on opposite sides of the door. The support plates include cylindrically depressed inner regions that extend partially into the bored opening in the door to accommodate return springs and reduce the visual thickness of the return spring assembly. Spring housings containing compression springs turn within the support plate inner regions and are held in place by cover plates. The support plate, cover plate, spring housing and springs on each side of the door form complete assemblies that are attached to the door via through-bolts. At least one of the support plates preferably includes lock tabs that connect to the cylindrical lock to prevent rotation of the cylindrical lock relative to the door. The support plate and cover plate are designed for strength when stamped from a flat sheet.

In The Abstract

Please replace the previous Abstract with the following Abstract (a clean copy of the amended Abstract in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.72(b) is also provided on a separate sheet):

A lever handle return spring assembly for a cylindrical lock mounted in a bored opening in a door includes support plates on opposite sides of the door. The support plates include cylindrically depressed inner regions that extend partially into the bored opening in the door to accommodate return springs and reduce the visual thickness of the return spring assembly. Spring housings containing compression springs turn within the support plate inner regions and are held in place by cover plates. The support plate, cover plate, spring housing and springs on each side of the door form complete assemblies that are attached to the door via through-bolts. At least one of the support plates preferably includes lock tabs that connect to the cylindrical lock to prevent rotation of the cylindrical lock relative to the door. The support plate and cover plate are designed for strength when stamped from a flat sheet.